



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

COPY OF ORIGINAL JUNE 17th REQUEST

OFFICE OF
ENFORCEMENT AND
COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Inspector Credentials Authorization Procedures

FROM: Elaine Stanley
Director
Office of Compliance

TO: Regional Counsels, Regions I-X
Regional Enforcement Division Directors, Regions I, II, VI, VIII, and X
Regional Program Division Directors, Regions I-X
Regional Enforcement Coordinators, Regions I-X
Tribal Program Managers, Regions I, II, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, and X

This memorandum provides you with the draft document, Inspector Credentials Authorization Procedures (ICAP), for your review and comment by August 20, 1999. This draft was developed by an Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance sponsored workgroup composed of numerous Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Headquarters offices, including the Office of General Counsel and the American Indian Environmental Office, EPA Regions, and representatives of the Tribal Caucus of the EPA-Tribal Operations Committee (TOC). (*See*, Work Group Member List at Attachment 1)

The draft outlines the process EPA would use in order to authorize inspectors employed by tribes, states, territories, or inter-tribal consortia¹ to conduct compliance inspections with a federal credential on behalf of EPA. It provides EPA's procedures for issuing federal credentials and discusses the roles and responsibilities of those who conduct inspections on behalf of EPA. The ICAP does not affect tribal, state, or territorial inspectors using tribal, state, or territorial credentials and conducting inspections "in lieu of" EPA under delegation, authorization, or

¹The ICAP is applicable to inter-tribal consortia who maintain a cooperative agreement with EPA.

primacy of the various federal environmental laws.

Key components of the ICAP include:

- Identifying implementation points of contact;
- Establishing inspector training requirements; and
- Developing processes for nominating, authorizing, and de-authorizing inspectors and issuing federal credentials.

In reviewing this document, please discuss the draft with representatives of tribes, inter-tribal consortia, states, and territories in your Region. Your discussions will supplement OECA's distribution of the document directly to affected tribes, state environmental and agricultural commissioners, territories, and the TOC. In addition, please submit all Regional comments through the Regional Enforcement Coordinators. You should send your comments to Jonathan Binder via e-mail (binder.jonathan@epa.gov) or mail (2224A).

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please have a member of your staff call Jonathan Binder at (202) 564-2516. In advance, thank you for assisting me in reviewing this very important document.

cc: Office Directors, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
Kathy Gorospe, Director, American Indian Environmental Office
James Nelson, Associate General Counsel
EPA Inspector Credentials Work Group
Tribal Coordinating Committee, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
National Indian Workgroup